

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) An optical disk comprising:

a first recording area ~~for recording~~ having a main data and control data area with such data recorded therein as pits, the first recording area comprising:

a second recording area located radially inward of the ~~overlapping the most radially inward portion of said~~ first recording area and having auxiliary information including disk identification information unique to said optical disk recorded therein,

wherein said auxiliary information is recorded as circumferentially arranged multiple stripe patterns on pits, each stripe of which extends along a radius of the disk; and

a control data area in the first recording area comprising an auxiliary information presence indicator indicating whether said stripe patterns are auxiliary information ~~is~~ present or not in the second recording area,

wherein said stripe patterns have a lower reflectivity than an average reflectivity of an area between one stripe pattern and another stripe pattern.

40. (Previously Presented) The optical disk according to claim 39, wherein said second recording area is recorded at a lower frequency than in an area of said first recording area other than said second recording area.

41. (Currently Amended) A reproducing method for an optical disk comprising a first recording area having a for recording main data and control data area with such data recorded therein as pits, a second recording area ~~overlapping the most radially inward portion of said~~ located radially inward of the first recording area and having auxiliary information including disk identification information unique to said optical disk recorded therein, wherein said auxiliary information is recorded as circumferentially arranged multiple stripe patterns on pits, each stripe of which extends along a radius of the disk, and a control data area in the first recording area comprising an auxiliary information presence indicator indicating whether said stripe patterns are ~~auxiliary information~~ is present or not in the second recording area, wherein said stripe patterns have a lower reflectivity than an average reflectivity of an area between one stripe pattern and another stripe pattern, the method comprising:

reproducing said first recording area and said second recording area by the same optical pickup; and

detecting a signal of said stripe patterns from a reproducing signal of said second recording area by detecting a signal lower than a certain slice level for reproducing a signal of said second recording area.

42. (Previously Presented) The reproducing method according to claim 41, wherein the detecting the signal of said second recording area comprises:

separating with a low pass filter said reproducing signal of said second recording area and a reproducing signal of an area of said first recording area other than said second recording area

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously Presented) The optical disk according to claim 39, wherein the auxiliary information is recorded with a modulation different from a modulation of the main data.